

Rags

"The Voice Of The Raggedy World"

February 2002 \$4.50



21/500

RAGGEDY ANN

TOP TALENT. MAXIMUM RETURNS.



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L I C E N S I N G



The holidays are past and we received wonderful greetings from many Rags readers. We're so pleased that so many of you wrote to say that you found Benne Nichol's cover and Joni Gruelle's "Love Cures" art on page 11 of the November issue of Rags so poignant. We did too. They both absolutely caught the mood of our country.

It's always fun to see where Raggedies turn up. We recently were in St. Louis and noticed a Raggedy display in the very posh children's clothing store, Le Enfants' in Plaza Frontenanc, where many stopped to look at the window display and renew an old acquaintance with Ann and Andy. Rich or poor, old or young, Raggedies are loved by all.

We're happy to report that Operation Raggedy Hugs is getting tremendous support in their goal to collect enough Raggedy Ann and Andy dolls-- and to deliver them-- to all the children who lost a parent or loved one on 9/11 when America was under attack. There still is a little time to join in this project. Holly Nolan and MeChelle Nash have generously donated their time to head this huge project. They remind us to take the boxed dolls out of boxes to save on shipping and that we contact Holly rather than MeChelle right now (MeChelle is having computer problems). Holly's address is 611 Glenview Ave., SW, Glen Burnie, MD 21061-3311. Her e-mail is melincat@yahoo.com. You can find an update from Holly and some photos from MeChelle on page 17.

We wanted to share with you a puzzle that was designed by Bill Munson of Knoxville, IL in honor of his daughter, Angela Sue's 8th birthday.

Those who attended the Japan Festival this year again reported having a wonderful time. Alison Hubbard says that they were made to feel like celebrities. She also said that many Japanese came to them to express their sympathy for the events of 9/11. She said they spoke of the tragedy with tears in their eyes.

Andrew Tabbat of our "Ask Andrew" monthly column has mentioned that he tries to answer all Raggedy questions, but he is not an appraiser, and regretfully, he is unable to answer questions concerning the value of dolls and other memorabilia. He has some exciting news in his column about a new Christmas ornament that will be coming out in 2002.

RAGGEDYS LOVE YOU ANGELA HILLIER

Q O G N I B S S I M Y K M M W P H
O L L E J Y X R U Q P I U G A E N
R A G D O L L O Y N D N S R L X R
B A L B G R S T Q D S G A U L P E
V L W F I Z G C L O V D C I P N K
F O S W B I C E N T E N N I A L C
C C H T D A A L N Z R C X L P J O
R R D T R G R L L E E A W W E X B
A A M P E A U O D A I O E E R T R
S B N S G I D C P B L R P H M I E
E N I G C A T P E L L I V X O N K
A P E R K H L R I Z I O Y O L K C
C D M I T A U W I R H O N P L E I
Y Y N A U H A R Z H T M H D Y R N
X D S S H I D W C T T S S E E E K
T N E D I C C A P H Z N U R S E B
G A R A G E U I Y J D N A L L O V

ACCIDENT	CHAMP	BOCKER	STRIPDARTS
ANDY	COLLECTORS	KNOXVILLE	THIRTIETH
ANN	COWBOYS	MIDDLEAGES	TINKER
APPLAUSE	DAKIN	MOLLYES	VOLLAND
ARCOLA	GARAGE	MUNSON	WALLPAPER
BICENTENNIAL	GEORGENE	NURSE	WILLOWLANE
BINGO	HEART	PARADE	
BIRTHDAY	HILLIER	RAGDOLL	
BLONDE	JELLO	RAGGEDY	
CAESAR	KNICKER-	SCHURCH	

Puzzle Solution
on Page 30



Bill Munson of Knoxville, IL sent Rags this puzzle which he created for his daughter, Angela Sue Hillier. Angela has enjoyed collecting Raggedies since her birth on April 8, 1971. She celebrated her 30th birthday by flying from Peoria, IL to Las Vegas, NV with her husband, her mother, Diane, and her father, Bill Munson. Everyone aboard the aircraft received a copy of this puzzle to work during the flight. Pictured is Angela on her 8th birthday with a special Raggedy Ann cake. (See his letter on page 25).

About the Cover: We thank Eloise Adams of Albert Lea, Minnesota for the beautiful cover art for this issue. Her use of pastels is lovely and the image of the little girl playing "dress up" is sure to bring back fond childhood memories.

The deadline for the May issue of Rags will be April 5. We look forward to, and welcome your photos, and drawings, letters and other art.

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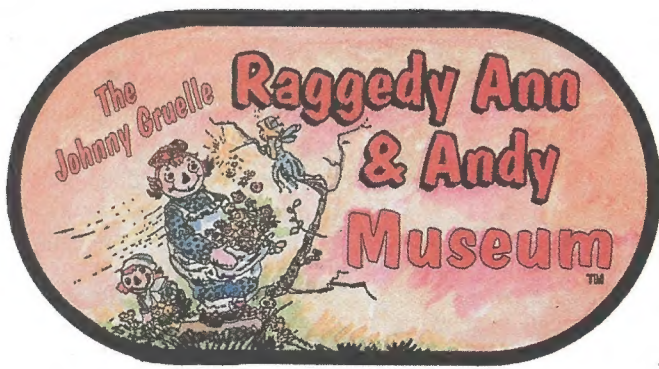
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Museum Featured In Nationally Syndicated Documentary

The Museum was honored to be included in a PBS documentary called "Soldiers' Stories" which was carried nationally by many PBS affiliates on Veterans Day, November 11th. Museum Director Tom Wannamaker was one of the veterans featured in this film which recounted the experiences of nine men and two women in Vietnam and how the war affected their later lives. Much of Tom's interview was filmed in the Museum, and there has been a nice response from many of you who saw it. If you missed this documentary, watch for it again this coming November.

After a year of restoration, our first mural is ready to return home to the Museum. We look forward to showing it off during the Festival in May. Also on display will be a surprise James Whitcomb Riley discovery from the old Claypool Hotel in Indianapolis. In the next Rags, we will be able to elaborate on our new Volland Exhibit. All of you who donated the wonderful handmade Christmas ornaments will again see them on display in the main Museum area. It is quite an impressive tree!! We know that you will also love the new mural artwork now in the planning stages in Marcella's Corner. This will be unveiled during our member's reception at Festival time. Rounding out our list of Festival surprises will be a special traveling doll exhibit that we will tell you more about next time.

The Museum will be "officially" closed until early March, however, the Staff will be there many days doing inventory, cataloging the collection, and working on new exhibit space. We are open for mail order, and appreciate your support as always. Please check out the new look on our web site. This is still a work in progress, so let us know how you like it. Many thanks to the thousands of you who supported our efforts to get Raggedy Ann and Andy into the Toy Hall of Fame. Much gratitude is due to past Arcola Mayor Lynda Fishel who conceived this project, to Donna Carter and John Otsuki for collecting almost 2,000 signatures, to Laff Ventures for the great petition pins, and to United Media for helping gather and send the results. We are especially proud that all of these folks are Museum members.

Patty Hall and Joni will be appearing at the Indiana Historical Society February 9th. We look forward to seeing many of you in Indianapolis.

Thank you all for helping make the past year a successful one for the Museum. We know Johnny Gruelle would be very happy to see so many wonderful people carrying on his philosophy of love and generosity.

FESTIVAL CORNER

by Annette Ferguson and Doris Knaus

Happy New Year! The year 2002 is sure to be full of many wonderful Raggedy adventures. Our Raggedy Festival has a new title, "The Original Raggedy Ann & Andy Festival". This years festival will have an American theme to salute the military, fireman, police, and our country.

To all of those individuals who took the time to take part in the Caring and Sharing project, your gifts were greatly appreciated. Thanks to your contributions, needy families throughout the Arcola community had a brighter Christmas.

The Friday night Dinner Celebration tickets are available for purchase while supplies last. The dinner will be held on Friday May 17, 2002 at Rockome Gardens Restaurant in rural Arcola. The cost is \$20.00 per person and this will include the evening's meal, special souvenir, and entertainment. Seating is limited. To order tickets for this event, contact the Arcola Chamber of Commerce at P.O.Box 274, Arcola, IL. 61910 or phone 217-268-4602 or 800-336-5456

Tickets to the Sunday Brunch are also on sale while supplies last. The brunch will be held on Sunday May 19, 2002 at Pappy's Paradise in downtown Arcola. The cost is \$15.00 per person and this will include brunch, special souvenir, and entertainment. Seating is also limited for this event. To order tickets for the Sunday Brunch, contact Vicki Dill at P.O.Box 215, Arcola, Illinois 61910 or phone 217-268-4966

The Raggedy Ann & Andy Walk, sponsored by Ridgewalkers Walking Club of Champaign, Illinois and the Arcola Chamber of Commerce will take place at the 2002 Festival. The Walk will be held on Saturday May 18, starting any time between 8:00 AM and Noon. The event will take walkers to places of local historic interest throughout the birthplace of Johnny Gruelle.

The Ridgewalkers Walking Club is part of the American Volkssport Association, a member of the International Federation of Popular Sports. To pre-register for this event, contact David Bradley 319 Valerie Dr. Champaign, Illinois 61822. A limited

Continued on Page 27

The Raggedy Ann & Andy Festival honors the memory of:

Rena Dill

*Festival Committee Member
for 12 years, 1989-2001*

Rena was employed at the First National Bank of Arcola. She served as Chairman of the Saturday Festival Reception/Auction for 12 years. We will miss her but she will never be forgotten.

Thank You, Rena Dill.

- Festival Committee



Drawing by Jeff Edwards

We are excited

MOLLY-'Es HUGGING DOLLS!



Each 17 inch un-boxed set will come with its own Museum hang tag and is NOT numbered. These dolls will be sold exclusively by the Museum, and the supply will be limited. Price will be \$40 plus shipping. Members' (in good standing) discount will apply. We are grateful to Applause for helping the Museum get these adorable dolls. This item is scheduled to be shipped to us by mid-April. Please call, fax or write us to reserve your pair.



Although the museum

is on its winter schedule until early March, we are open for mail order and someone is usually available between 10 and 4 Tuesday through Friday. If no one answers, leave a message and we will get back to you.

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The Johnny Gruelle

Raggedy Ann and Andy Museum is a non-profit organization. We are open to the public from March until the end of December annually. All Museum income, including proceeds from Marcella's Corner, goes to promote and preserve the artistic and philosophical legacy of Johnny Gruelle.

Patty On Pages

By Patricia Hall

A Friendly Forum Devoted to Queries About
Johnny Gruelle's Published Works

As of this issue of "RAGS" "The Curator's Column" will be merge with "Patty on Pages" and from here on, I will be using this single column to present a little food for thought about Johnny Gruelle's publications, and also answer print-related queries you send my way.

Since we covered the care and feeding of books in the last several issues, I'd like to move on to Gruelle-Raggedy print materials--this time, focusing on magazines. Johnny Gruelle was amazingly prolific as a magazine contributor, and as a result there are hundreds of magazine issues that are collectible, not to mention the Raggedy comic books that came out beginning in the 1940s. (Note: for full listings of Gruelle/Raggedy magazine and comic book appearances, consult Raggedy Ann and More and Raggedy Ann and Johnny Gruelle: A Bibliography)

Since magazines are composed of paper and are in a paged format, much of the same advice about caring for books applies to the care of periodicals. There are several differences, however. For starters, many magazines are not printed on as high quality paper as books are, and therefore suffer the ravages of time and handling more severely than a book of the same age. Secondly, most magazines are not protected by a stiff cover, but are, rather, in soft booklet form, either saddle-stapled (large sheets stapled through the middle and folded over to form the cover and pages) or perfect-bound (the edges of individual pages are glued to a paper cover). Either way, because of their soft-cover nature, magazines can be easily damaged by folding, creasing, and tearing.

So protection is paramount. The first thing I do (after photographing both the cover and the artwork or story inside for my records, of course!) is to give the magazine physical protection in an archivally safe clear magazine sleeve, which are available in many different sizes. You can also purchase acid-free backing boards, to slip down inside these sleeves to lend more stability. Once they are safe in their bags, the magazines can be stored and displayed in special magazine boxes. Smaller boxes (which accommodate the Raggedy comic books, as well as issues of John Martin's Book, Judge, and the like) hold between 10-20 issues and fit nicely on bookshelves. Larger magazines, (such as Woman's World) can be stored, and kept accessible, in special banker-style boxes that are sized for just such a periodical. You can also get organizational dividers and spacers for these larger boxes.



(Left) The Raggedys put in a special appearance at White Rabbit Books in Costa Mesa, CA. (Right) Bill Miller, Alison Hubbard and their Travelin' Ann paid a visit to San Diego in early November.



(Left) Patty Hall and resident "Raggedy Bookseller" at a Raggedy teaparty at Storyopolis children's bookstore in Beverly Hills, CA. (Right) Patty presents a Raggedy history lesson to school kids at Little Professor Books in Temecula, CA.

A great source for all of the above cited materials is Bags Unlimited. Their prices are competitive and you can reach them at www.bagsunlimited.com or by calling 800-767-BAGS

Several interesting queries came in this time,
which I'll answer below.

At what point (or year) does Justin Gruelle take over the job of illustrating Raggedy Ann and Andy books?

Regards,
Michaele Ely

Dear Michaele,

Like his older brother Johnny, Justin Gruelle (born in 1889) was an accomplished artist who picked up tips from his father, landscape painter R.B. Gruelle. During the Teens and Twenties, Justin provided illustrations to such periodicals as John Martin's Book, Judge, and Illustrated Sunday Magazine and illustrated a variety of non-Raggedy books. During the 1930s, Justin worked as a commercial artist, for a time under the auspices of the Federal Works Project Administration (WPA).

Following Johnny Gruelle's death in early 1938, the Gruelle family and Howard Cox formed the Johnny Gruelle Company to carry on the Raggedy legacy. Both Justin Gruelle and Johnny's son, Worth (also an artist) were enlisted to illustrate several Raggedy book manuscripts left behind by Johnny. Worth's first Raggedy illustrations appeared in Raggedy Ann in the Magic Book (1939); Justin's first, in Raggedy Ann and the Golden Butterfly (1940). In addition to these and subsequent books published by the Johnny Gruelle Company, Justin illustrated six Raggedy "Little Color Classics" books for McLoughlin Bros. in 1940-41 (re-issued as "Westfield Classics in 1943) and several coloring books and large soft-cover booklets. Justin and Worth were also commissioned during the early 1940s to provide artwork for coloring books, play sets, and puzzles issued by McLoughlin.

Justin Gruelle lived into his eighties, spending his last years working, along with his wife Mable, as an artist in Alpine, California. In addition to his many Raggedy illustrations, among the artistic contributions Justin Gruelle left behind are a number of impressive murals, several of which hang in the City Hall in Justin's former hometown of Norwalk, Connecticut.

Best wishes,
Patty

My husband had a Raggedy Ann (or Andy, he doesn't remember which) book. He really enjoyed it. Right

Continued on Page 8

RAGS February 2002

RAGGEDY ANDREW

ANDREW TABBAT



Cute kid



Cherry Bear Halloween



Cute Costumes



Fingernails



BEN Booth

More of Andrew's Japan Festival photos on Page 30

Happy Valentine's Day to you! It's that grand time of year when a careful search of your favorite card and gift shops just might yield all sorts of trinkets in the shape of candy hearts... I leave some out all year 'round to accessorize my Raggedy displays.

Speaking of things to look at all year, I finally have some solid information to offer about Raggedy calendars for 2002. I know it's very late, but just maybe better than never. It turns out that Peaceable Kingdom Press did indeed license rights to use Raggedy Ann on a calendar; but rather than devoting all 12 months to Raggedy they used one Johnny Gruelle drawing inside their "Celebrating Children's Books 2002" calendar, and another on the cover. This may still be available if you search; as of this writing it's still offered at www.littleanniesattic.com). Also, a Japanese licensee produced full-year calendars utilizing United Media's graphics in both a mini size and a wall size. These were sold only in Japan, as was a printed cloth calendar. Finally, in case inquiring minds want to know what's hanging on my own kitchen wall, I went with the "Dick and Jane, We Work and Play, 2002 Calendar." It was published by Graphique de France (widely available in the U.S.), and includes scenes involving Raggedy Ann for three of the big monthly illustrations.

Turning the calendar back to this past November, I was among the few Americans lucky enough to attend the 2nd Raggedy Ann & Andy Festival in Japan. Traveling with her cousin Jeannie, Ruth Gruelle represented the family with warmth, energy, and humor. I spent some time signing books and other items in John Otsuki's Axcis booth, but Barbara Lauver (Harper General Store) and Nancy Nelson were the only American dealers to set up a full booth of their own. Nancy's 5-year-old daughter, Cheyenne, also attended and managed to transcend the language barrier while playing with Japanese-speaking kids up and down the aisles. Also attending the festival were two women originally from Japan now living in the USA: Nobuko Kondo-Calisher (who interviewed the American collectors featured in the festival's luscious Official Fan Book), and Harumi Soejima (who brought along the most pristine Exposition Raggedy Ann seen since 1935). Bill & Alison Miller (a.k.a. Hubbard-Miller), the only American collectors to attend for two years in a row, completed our contingent with their trademark enthusiasm and good cheer.

This year's festival was held in Tokyo's huge Sunshine City complex, which comprises a large hotel, a vast and interesting shopping mall, a theater, an aquarium, dozens of restaurants, and convention space. It would have been so easy to fill my entire

week's visit without ever going outdoors, but on my first day I braved the subway system to explore the Ginza district where (in addition to a bronze monument to Godzilla) I visited the largest toy store in Tokyo. The next day, Alison and I went to the brand new Tokyo Disney Sea theme park, which had opened in September. We seemed to be the only Westerners there that day, so perhaps we stuck out like sore thumbs... still, imagine how stunned we were to be recognized by two separate groups of Raggedy fans, who came running over to say hello and pose for photos! Well, I suppose Alison's Raggedy necklace and vest helped them spot us.

However, that was only a hint of what was to come. During the three days of the festival we were overwhelmed and flattered by a constant barrage of Raggedy fans asking us to pose with them for photos, and to sign everything in sight. Ruth and I, at least, had tables to write on and translators to ease communication. Bill and Alison were surprised to find themselves celebrities, and were seen holding impromptu autographing sessions as they tried to browse the show. They struggled to communicate polite refusals to sign vintage items such as Georgene dolls, but we all did sign dozens of newer dolls, hundreds of Fan Books, and you-name-it. Often we were presented with small handcrafted Raggedy gifts, and more than once I tried to make a purchase only to have the generous seller firmly decline to accept payment! But I'm getting ahead of myself: first, let me describe the festival itself.

Each morning, a seemingly endless queue of fans waited patiently for the doors to open. One day I was surprised to see my friends Hiromi and Hideko at the very head of the line, sitting on the floor and painting red triangles on their noses to while away the time. Hideko explained that only the early birds received "special stuff": free Raggedy T-shirts, bandanas, and phone cards.

Upon entering the gigantic festival space, it was hard to know which way to turn. To one side was a counter selling exclusive limited edition festival merchandise including dolls, plates, mugs,

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Harper General Store Presents Georgene Raggedies



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Barbara's Reflections

by Barbara Barth

As I write this I am sipping a large cup of hot chocolate and gazing out at our snow covered back yard. It is toasty warm by the computer - but the weather outside is frightful (reminds me of one of my favorite holiday songs!).

Central and South Georgia had a fair share of the white fluffy stuff right after the New Year. The dogs loved it - romping and leaving little (and not so little) paw tracks across the gleaming white surface. I think it is time for me to start looking at the gardening catalogs that arrived last week! Just a little too cold for me and I need to visualize warmer days! Recently a friend of mine asked me to sell her childhood Raggedy Ann doll on Ebay. A large Knickerbocker in lovely condition.

A few small kiss smudges on her cheeks were the only tell tale signs of wear. I took pictures of her - and held her close as I moved her from one position to another. It has been a long time since I have had a "new" old doll in the house - since my collections now run to other treasures.

Well - as you might have guessed - I fell in love with her! Once smitten with Raggedy Ann - always so. I am now in the process of working out a trade to keep her. She spent the holidays snuggled in with a few rabbits and they had a lovely time! I had almost forgotten the joy of having a new Raggedy in the house. I hope all of you had a warm and happy holiday and found a few Raggedy treasures from Santa under your tree. Now that the first of the New Year is here it will soon be time for one of my favorite romantic holidays - Valentine's Day! Not just for sweethearts - but for all the folks we hold dear. The perfect time for me to tell you that there will always be a place in my heart for my RAGS friends.

With that said - I want to let you know this will be my final column. Valentine's Day seems like the perfect time to express my fond feelings for all of you as I say my good-byes! As you know - my collections have taken me in many directions. My experience with the Raggedy community has been one of the best in my life. I treasure the friendships I have made and I am not sure anything can top it! I will still have my RAGS newsletter to keep up with all of you - but it is time for me to move on. In the early days of RAGS I only said a few words - the newsletter was for you and about you!

Well, Don and Linda have let me ramble on for almost 2 years now - and I am talked out! Need to dedicate this space for what really counts - and that is you and your collections! I thank Don and Linda from the bottom of my heart for this special time I have shared with the new RAGS. I love the way RAGS has grown and the beautiful things they have done with it - and am proud to have been a part of it! I will think of all of you often with a smile!

Patty on Pages: Continued from Page 6

now, the only thing that stands out clearly in his mind is that it had red plastic/cellophane type pages dispersed throughout the book. He doesn't remember the title and we aren't sure how old it is. It belonged to his father, and HE thinks that it was old before he got it. Or at least older than he was. Anyway, do you have any idea what I am talking about and if you do can you give me any info you can? If not can you direct me to someone that can?

Thanks,

Melissa Jordan

Dear Melissa,

Andrew Tabbat has forwarded your very intriguing note to me, along with his response ("...Although I believe I am familiar with most Raggedy Ann & Andy books, this one doesn't ring a bell. The only thing that even comes close is Raggedy Ann and Andy with Animated Illustrations, which had a red plastic spiral binding. Interspersed were animated pictures by Julian Wehr which could be made to "come alive" by moving paper tabs (no red plastic involved). This book was published in 1944 by Saalfeld, and is often available on eBay. (By the way, knowing that the book was older than your husband or his dad, it might be helpful to have a rough idea of their ages.)"

Like Andrew, I don't know of any Raggedy book that had red cellophane pages interspersed among regular pages. After consulting with several knowledgeable children's booksellers, I was able to confirm that there were novelty books of this sort published during the 1940s and 1950s. However, no one recalled ever seeing one that featured the Raggedys. Incidentally, the colored cellophane was a way to make otherwise hidden objects or messages "pop" out, by camouflaging parts of the adjoining illustrations. I will continue "sleuthing" this one, and will let you know if I find out any more information.

Best wishes,

Patty

Send your questions about Johnny Gruelle's published works to "Patty on Pages" c/o
RAGS, 204 E. Main Street, P.O. Box 130, Arcola, IL 61910,
or e-mail drankin125@aol.com



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

FEBRUARY 23, 2002 — Somerset County 4-H Exchange Club Annual Doll & Teddy Bear Show
310 Milltown Road, Bridgewater, NJ 10 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Information: 609-466-8005

MAY 18-19, 2002 — 13th Annual Raggedy Ann and Andy Festival in Arcola, Illinois. Contact Doris Knaus, 217-268-3311 or Annette Ferguson, 217-268-3295, or write P.O. Box 274, Arcola, IL 61910.

RAGS READERS E-MAIL

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Ask Andrew

Send your questions for Andrew Tabbat to
"RAGS," 204 E. Main St., Arcola, IL 61910
or email drankin125@aol.com

Hello,

I was wondering if you could tell me anything about two items that I have purchased from an auction. One is music and lyrics by Joe Raposo. On the bottom of the pages they say copyright 1976 Jonico Music Inc. (ASCAP) and the Bobbs Merrill Company, Inc. It is also stamped Raggedy Ann on all of the pages. Some of the titles of the songs are "A Miracle," "I'm No Girl's Toy," "Hooray For Me," etc.). This is all loose paper and looks like it was hand written but it also looks like a copy of it.

Then I also bought a book, *The Animated Raggedy Ann & Andy*, by John Canemaker. On the bottom is Bobbs-Merrill Indianapolis/New York. Copyright 1977. This is loose paper and divided into nine sections and goes up to page 228. It has beautiful pictures in it. I was just curious to know if it was of any value and if you know any more about it. Thank you for your time.

Monica Abner

Hi Monica,

It makes sense that these two items were found in the same auction, as both pertain to the 1977 animated feature film "Raggedy Ann & Andy, A Musical Adventure." Videotapes of this movie are often available on eBay.

All of the songs you mention, and many more, are included in the movie score. At the time, the Bobbs-Merrill Co. held publishing and licensing rights to the Raggedy characters (those rights are now held by Simon & Schuster, Inc.). To the best of my knowledge, no sheet music from the film was ever published, so even photocopies of the songs are hard to come by. The late Joe Raposo, who wrote the songs, also composed many well-known songs for "Sesame Street."

John Canemaker's *The Animated Raggedy Ann & Andy* follows the

making of the film from start to finish. It makes fascinating reading for any fan of the movie or of animation in general. The book, which is now out of print, was published in both hard cover and paperback editions. It has a total of 292 pages including the index, etc. I don't really understand what you mean by "divided into nine sections," but I'm guessing that your loose pages may have been proofs of some sort. Or possibly they are sections from a book that has come apart.

Regards, Andrew

Dear Andrew,

I am hoping you can help me out. I had a Raggedy Ann when I was little and then purchased Raggedy Ann and Andy for both of my children. My daughter also had a Raggedy Ann room when she was little. Through the years I have acquired several Raggedy Anns and Andys but until I attended the Raggedy Ann Festival a few years ago, I wasn't an avid collector.


I have begun researching my collection and have used your ID Guide and it has been very helpful. My question is: Do all Raggedy Anns always have a tuft of hair on top? If so, how far back does this apply. I had purchased a couple of Georgene Raggedy Anns and only one has a tuft of hair on top. Also, are there any other facts on knowing if they have their original clothes? I would appreciate any information you can give or where I can obtain this information. Thank you very much.

Donna Roads, Illinois

Dear Donna,

Raggedy Ann's topknot hairstyle goes way back. It has its roots (sorry) in Johnny Gruelle's illustrations, most of which clearly show loops crowning her yarn 'do. Wigs of the Volland Ann dolls also have loops, although the styling is different from that on later dolls. The rare 1935 Anns by Exposition have quite exaggerated topknots. Raggedy Andy dolls generally should not have the loops, but Molly-Es are an exception. Raggedy Ann & Andy dolls by that company should all have topknots (some Babies excluded). Beginning in 1938, Georgene was the first company to wig the dolls in the fashion that is now familiar, with a fringe all around, and the

Continued on Page 30




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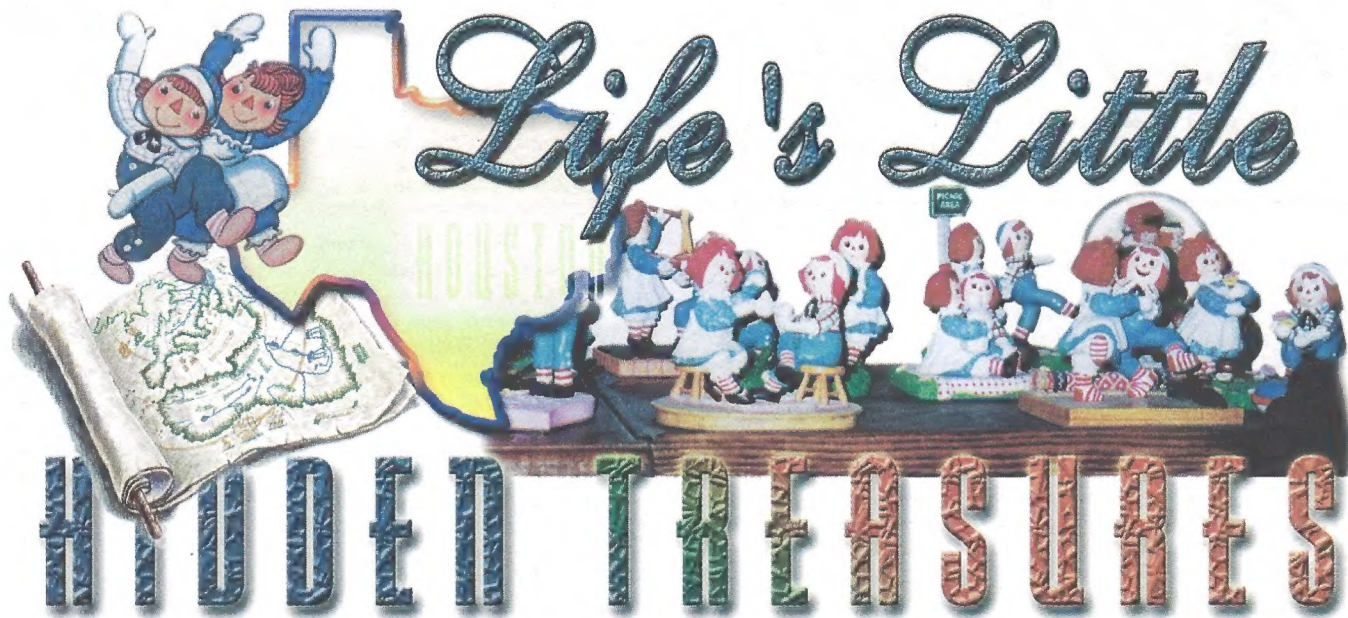
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Life's Little

HIDDEN TREASURES

By Ron White
Staff Writer

It began in 1971 with the birth of Jaime and the gift of a popular doll, Ann. Now, though, the smiling face of Raggedy Ann brings joy to another baby, Emily, who is Jaime's daughter.

Emily's middle name?

Ann, of course.

After 30 years, Raggedy Ann remains a part of everyday life for Jaime Aranda, who lives in Houston, Texas. Instead of a single set of Raggedy dolls, however, Jaime and Emily now share a collection estimated to be worth as much as \$50,000.

"My whole house is Raggedy Ann," said Aranda, who began seriously collecting Raggedy Ann and Raggedy Andy items in 1989.

"The collection didn't really start until I moved out and moved into an apartment with my husband," said Aranda. "Even then, I didn't really set out to start collecting."

The move toward becoming an avid Raggedy collector began and continues to be a family affair. Aranda, husband John and Jaime's mother, Claudia, often traveled to antique shops in the Houston area to seek out various "hidden treasures" when the collection first took form, said Aranda.

The collectible hunts offered convenience and camaraderie for the trio of collectors. Aranda's mother collects head vases and John maintains a baseball memorabilia collection. While seeking out those items with her husband and mother, Jaime increasingly began latching onto various Raggedy collectibles.

"I didn't consciously set out to start a collection," said Aranda. "We just went to antique shops around town. We just kind of bought one or two, and eventually it became what it is now."

From a modest beginning, Aranda's collection expanded so rapidly that she faced a difficult decision. With display space

in her home quickly filling to capacity, Aranda decided to turn to her mother, an accomplice in this tale of Raggedy riches. Aranda's mother is now the caretaker for half of the collection after agreeing to store a portion of the items.

Ironically, it was Claudia's assistance that set the Raggedy ball rolling in Jaime's life.

"My mom would go out and bring back Raggedy items," said Aranda of her mother's encouragement. "Family members heard from her and others that I liked Raggedy Ann, and they began bringing me various Raggedy stuff, too. From there, it's just grown and grown until, basically, it became an obsession for me."

Aranda explained that collecting has helped bring her family closer together.

"We spend more time together now," said Aranda. "And it's something nice that we can do together."

In addition to frequenting antique shops and collectibles shops, Aranda said she began attending various shows dedicated to dolls. Twice each year, the Houston Reliant Astrodome hosts a large gathering of antique vendors, said Aranda. Those events have been an asset in her collectibles quest. For the past 20 years, said

Aranda, she has attended the shows at the Astrodome with her mother and husband. And Emily attended last June for the first time.

While the obsession began 12 years ago, Raggedy Ann entered Jaime's life at a much earlier stage. Asked when she first learned of the famed dolls, Aranda told of a pair of Raggedy dolls with a life that began with her birth.

Those dolls, which she still owns, were uniquely designed with ebony hair. The dolls also sport a special outfit, one sewn by Aranda's great grandmother. She patterned a new outfit because Aranda lost the dolls' original clothing while playing with the collectibles as a child. In the years that followed, Raggedy memorabilia continued its presence in Aranda's childhood.



A shelving unit in the Aranda family's kitchen features her vast array of Raggedy Ann and Andy cookie jars.

The 13th Original Raggedy Ann & Andy Festival



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United We Stand

Arcola, IL • May 18 & 19, 2002

FRIDAY, MAY 17 6:00-9:00 p.m.

Country Picnic Dinner

at Blucker Hall, Rockome Gardens

Dinner served at 6:30 p.m. Ticket includes dinner, special souvenir only at this event and entertainment before and after dinner.

\$20 per person

SATURDAY, MAY 18 8:00 a.m.-Noon

2nd Raggedy Ann & Andy Walk

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Full color embroidered patch of Raggedy Andy.

See registration information on back.

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♥ Raggedy
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♥ Parade

♥ Carnival

♥ Petting Zoo

♥ The Raggedy
Ann & Andy
Museum

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2002 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Saturday, May 18

9 a.m. Festival Opens

OAK STREET STAGE

9:30 a.m. Mr. Steve

11 a.m. Professor Farquar

12 noon Mr. Steve

12:30 Professor Farquar

1:00 Jennifer Goran, Raggedy Ann
Storyteller

3 p.m. Parade (Line-up 2 p.m.)

4 p.m. Duke Tumatoe & The Power Trio

5:30 p.m. Duke Tumatoe & The Power Trio

7:30 p.m. Teen Dance w/ Moomaw Light and
Sound

LOCUST STREET SCHEDULE

9 a.m. - dusk Pony Rides & Petting Zoo

10 a.m. Ginger Lozar, Fortune Cookie
Puppets

11:30 a.m. High Action Bikes & Ginger Lozar

1:30 a.m. High Action Bikes & Ginger Lozar

4 p.m. High Action Bikes

STROLLING ON LOCUST STREET

11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Curlie Dimple

1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Raggedy Ann (Jennifer Goran)

2 p.m. - 3 p.m. Professor Farquar

4 p.m. - 5 p.m. Professor Farquar &
Curlie Dimple (strolling &
ballooning)

FIRST NATIONAL OF ARCOLA

11 a.m. Reception

ARCOLA CHRISTIAN CHURCH

4 p.m. - 6 p.m. Social Gathering

Sunday, May 19

OAK STREET STAGE

10 a.m. - noon Kiddie Tractor Pull

12 noon Mr. Steve

2:30 p.m. Jennifer Goran

LOCUST STREET SCHEDULE

10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Pony Rides & Petting Zoo

11 a.m. High Action Bikes

12:30 p.m. Ginger Lozar

1 p.m. High Action Bikes

2 p.m. Ginger Lozar

3 p.m. High Action Bikes

STROLLING ON LOCUST STREET

11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Curlie Dimple & Professor Farquar

3 p.m. - 4 p.m. Raggedy Ann (Jennifer Goran)

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"I had stuff then that I wish I still had," said Aranda. "I just didn't keep some stuff when I was a child, including my Raggedy lunch box. I took a lunch box to school in kindergarten that had Raggedy Ann and Andy on it."

Realizing the mistake of allowing those items to drift away as many children's toys do as adolescence gradually fades away with time, Aranda now must purchase the items that were a part of her childhood.

Of course, after building a collection representative of the many Raggedy items on the market, Aranda was forced to move half of the collection into her mother's house to make room for her favorite doll, her daughter Emily. But Aranda vows to someday follow through with a dream to bring all of the items under one roof again.

"I'd like to move everything back into my house, eventually," said Aranda. "I didn't want to have to move everything down to mother's house."

Even more satisfaction would arise if Aranda's dream of someday opening a small-scale museum reaches fruition.

"What I'd really like to have is something like a guest house or some building to house everything. It'd be kind of like a mini museum or something," said Aranda. "It's a dream of mine to open a museum. It's something I think I'd like to do one day."

Asked where house guests see Raggedy items in her home, Aranda gave a simple answer — everywhere.

"They're in my bedroom, my daughter's bedroom, the kitchen, the living room. I think the only place that I don't have any Raggedy items is in the bathroom," said Aranda.

Many items are placed on appliances, on furniture, on shelves and in cradles and toy chests. The top of her microwave, as well as shelves in the kitchen, includes Raggedy memorabilia. Sets of bookshelves with glass doors hold many of the Raggedy planters she collects.

"If I have a flat surface, there's a Raggedy Ann sitting there," said Aranda, who keeps the more breakable collectibles where they are safe from Emily's curious hands.

Aranda, though, plans to change that policy in the future.

"The collection is something that I eventually want to turn over to Emily," said Aranda. "Eventually, I have to stop. I can't just keep going on forever with the collection. But I can give it to her. And I can buy items for her and not necessarily for myself."

At the moment, Aranda is enthusiastically awaiting the day Emily is able to share in the hunt for collectibles.

"I'm kind of waiting for her to get a little older so we can do these things together," said Aranda. "I'd like to share it with her. It's something that has made me happy over the 12 years that I've been collecting."

Asked to point out what makes Raggedy collecting the

popular hobby and, in some cases, business venture, that it has become, Aranda, during the same week as the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks in the United States, spoke of Raggedies as symbols of a nation.

"She's kind of like Barbie. You think of Raggedy Ann and Barbie as being American symbols," said Aranda. "I can't explain what Raggedy Ann does to people. When I first showed one to Emily, she just had this big smile on her face, just because the Raggedy Ann was smiling. It's just something that kind of makes you smile and makes you feel good."

Emily's first Raggedy collectible included an Easter theme. Now, Emily's collection includes two pair of small Raggedy Ann and Andy dolls, as well as holiday-themed dolls. Emily's grandmother, Claudia, and aunt, Angela, purchased the dolls, including an Easter Raggedy Ann doll and a Halloween Raggedy Ann doll.

"Now, she has a smaller pair of dolls, about eight inches tall or so, that she plays with," said Aranda. "There are a lot of them in her room, and she just loves to look at them."

As Aranda's collectible quest caught fire, interest in Raggedy Ann also gathered steam, she said. Aranda explained that the collectibles virtually disappeared from most antique shops within the past five years.

"All of a sudden, there was this big boom," said Aranda. "All of a sudden, it's a big thing. Many of the things now sold at the antique shows are

hand-made dolls and similar items. There just isn't a lot of Raggedy stuff I can find at shows anymore."

With Raggedy items in greater demand, said Aranda, many of the home-shopping programs on cable television began showcasing Raggedy Ann collectibles. Both the Home Shopping Network and QVC now dedicate a portion of air time to the collectibles, Aranda explained.

Such shows provide another avenue for purchasing the latest Raggedy items to hit the marketplace. Aranda, though, looks to the Internet to find most items. She calls the Internet a great tool for buying "items for a bargain."

She said her collection quickly grew when she first subscribed to Internet service about three years ago.

"That's when it just kind of went crazy. When I saw eBay, I kind of went crazy buying things," said Aranda.

The Internet offers two types of purchasing, she said. Some businesses, that include Raggedy collectibles among their wares, offer online shopping for both vintage items and new products. By purchasing from these companies, Aranda is able to access a plethora of Raggedy merchandise with the touch of a few buttons.

Auction Web sites such as eBay, the site that accelerated Aranda's collecting frenzy, also offer a way for Raggedy enthusiasts to build their collections, said Aranda. Auction



Pictured are two framed puzzles (top left) that hang on a wall in the bedroom of Jaime's daughter, Emily, along with artwork (top right and bottom) purchased at antique shows.

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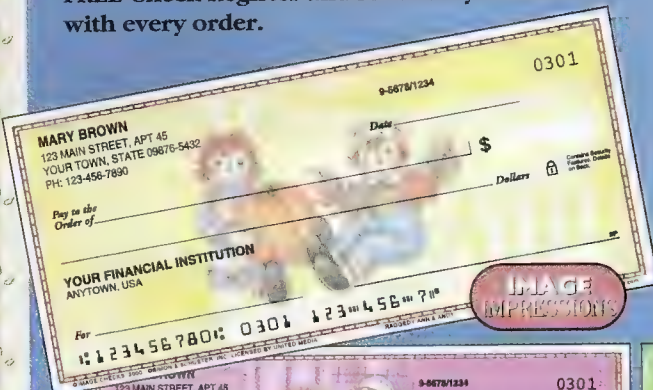
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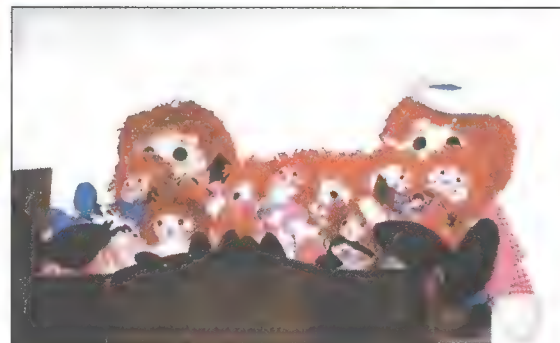
Raggedy Ann & Andy™ (4 scenes)



Main Image Checkbook Cover



(Above) A group of dolls in Emily's bedroom features two large dolls from the Danbury Mint. (Top right) An armoire in the Aranda's bedroom serves as a display for some more Raggedy Ann and Andy hand-made dolls and a collection of Raggedy Bears. (Bottom right) This collection of hand-made dolls and Dakin products tops a wooden armoire in Emily's bedroom.



Web sites allow people from around the world the ability to buy and sell their individual Raggedy collectibles with ease.

Raggedy Ann cookie jars, one of Aranda's favorite collectible items, are plentiful through the auction sites, said Aranda. Of her 30 cookie jars, Aranda said all but three were purchased through Internet shopping and online auctions.

Aranda, though, avoids purchasing more expensive vintage Raggedy collectibles through online auction services due to the risk she believes is involved.

"It's hard to verify an item's rarity and condition," said Aranda. "That is a problem. Someone might believe an item is in good condition. But sometimes it's not quite in the condition they say it is. That's a chance you take."

Aranda said that, as she purchased more and more items from auction sites, she gathered more knowledge of how to ensure satisfaction.

eBay (www.ebay.com) allows Internet users an opportunity to search for items across the globe. Aranda said collectors are able to browse through the listings to find the items they desire most. The site normally includes more than 2,000 Raggedy collectibles. At times, traditional collectibles businesses use auction sites as a way to attract customers to their own Web sites. In other instances, Raggedy collectors are selling items from their personal collections. Aranda said she

believes opportunities for online shopping have helped to strengthen interest in Raggedy Ann and Andy collecting.

Recently, eBay added a "gallery" option that allows users to see small photos, called thumbnail pictures, of each item. If an item strikes Aranda's interest, she simply directs her computer to provide a larger image with more details about the item.

A possible advantage to purchasing through auction Web sites is that items may sell for less than their actual value. In many instances, the actual worth of an item increases as time passes and it becomes more scarce. Aranda said many of the items she purchases from eBay sell for about half of their actual value. She uses collectibles pricing guides to gauge the actual value of items.

"I go through and check the value of an item," said Aranda.

While the value of items is always an issue, Aranda said those interested in becoming Raggedy collectors should realize that it can be an inexpensive hobby.

"With all of the new items that come out and the Internet as a tool, there are so many inexpensive items that someone can start a collection with."

While the Internet offers some bargains, Aranda still purchases many wonderful Raggedy items in antique shops and Raggedy collectibles stores. Her previous boss added to Aranda's collection during a visit to Memphis, TN, where a vintage Raggedy Andy doll was discovered in an antique shop. Aranda said the doll, which her boss gave to her as a gift, showed some wear.

Though the condition of the doll causes some depreciation of value, Aranda said her research indicates that the doll's value is nearly \$500, about 50 times the price paid. And the purchase price included Holgate, a toy that matched the doll. But that item was accidentally discarded with the garbage by the husband of Aranda's former boss.

Of course, Aranda admits that she purchases some items for a greater percentage of the actual value simply because she desires them more. In fact, Aranda's concern with the value of the Raggedy items she purchases pales in comparison to the sentimental value they bring to her life in the Lone Star State.



As is the case throughout Jaime's house, this corner in her bedroom includes a chair filled with more hand-made Raggedy Ann and Andy dolls and a throw rug that mimics a Raggedy Ann and Andy postage stamp. (Right) A toy chest in Emily's bedroom features a host of hand-made Raggedy Ann and Andy dolls.

"I don't really want to buy things to sell them," said Aranda. "Collecting is just something that I love to do. My husband and my mom like it, too. It's just kind of something for us to do together. And now I think of it as something I can pass on to my daughter. We can kind of do it together."

Although her husband enjoys helping add items to her collection by combing through toy stores and Web sites, Aranda explained that, at times, the Raggedy hobby impedes on his day-to-day life.

For instance, Aranda hesitates to order a special Texas license plate that professes her love of Raggedies.

"I don't know how my husband would feel about driving around in that car," said Aranda with a chuckle.

"I already have an 'I Love Raggedy Ann' sticker on my car. And he's had to take my car to work with all of these big men around. He wasn't too pleased with that."

What did please John, who works as an inspector for the Houston Public Works Department, was a trip the couple took to the Raggedy Ann and Andy Festival in Arcola. They came to the festival in 1999. A "difficult pregnancy" and the arrival of Emily kept them away from the festival for the past two years. But Aranda has vowed to return.

"We're just waiting for our daughter to get a little bigger," said Aranda. "Then, we can take her with us. John wanted to go back (for the 2001 festival in Arcola). He was ready to go back. But I felt Emily was too little. I want her to see it and enjoy it."

Aranda also hopes to attend the festival in Japan at some point in the future.

"A lot of items I'd like to have are from Japan," she said. "There were a lot of people, who I assume were from Japan, buying up a lot of stuff (at the Arcola festival in

1999). Apparently, it's a really big phenomenon over there, too."

Of course, as friends and relatives have pointed out, the breadth of her collection is already alarming, as well as breathtaking.

"They all think it's crazy to have so much," said Aranda. "They ask me when it will stop. And that's the question I keep asking myself. How do you stop? They come out with new stuff every month now."

Along with the mass-marketed Raggedy items and the brand-name collectibles, Aranda enjoys collecting hand-made pieces.

"One of my favorite pieces is something that we bought at an antique show for \$2," explained Aranda. "It's just this weird little hand-carved wooden doll. It hangs on the wall. A lot of the stuff is not very expensive. It's just different. It's not something everybody else who collects Raggedy Anns would have. Some of my hand-made dolls are my favorites."

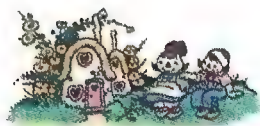
Other items in her collection include books, music boxes, jacks, chalkware, manicure sets, lamps, pictures, banks, blow-up dolls, clocks and various toys.

Asked what she might have collected if her interests had not led her to the Raggedy world, Aranda said she doubted any other collection would have reached this point.

As it is, the Aranda family may be forever linked to the world of Raggedies.

"When anyone who knows me thinks about me, they automatically think about Raggedy Ann," said Aranda. "We're just kind of connected."

To connect with Jaime Aranda, readers can send e-mail to raggedyj@hotmail.com.



"THE HOME OF
RAGGEDY ANN &
RAGGEDY ANDY"

14 RAGGEDY LANE By Kim Gruelle—"The Raggedyman"

Dear Raggedy friends:

Happy new 2002 year to everyone! Since winter is here all the Raggedys and I have decided to take a sabbatical and enjoy our peaceful mountains in the deep, deep woods of western North Carolina.

Hold tight—our new catalog is being shipped out in February, our web site will be refreshed also—(yeah!).

Meanwhile I am writing, doing artwork, creating music, reading, researching, dreaming of ocean fishing and praying real hard for peace on this planet.

May God Bless you all.

Mr. Kim Gruelle

"The Raggedy Grandson"

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Raggedy Ann Serves as Mascot: Jolly Seventeeners Take Doll Wherever They Go



Those of the Jolly Seventeeners Club who toured Arcola in October are: front row, left to right, Jean Schmidt, Ingleside, IL; Uverna Lorenz, Reserve, KS; Beulah Higgins, Alamogordo, NM; Gertrude Holding, Hobart, IN; and Leona Pelton, Lonedell, MO. Shown in the back row, left to right, are: John Schmidt, husband of a member, Ingleside, IL; John Lorenz, husband of a member, Reserve, KS; Bertha Woodson, Springfield, WV; Alberta Meeks, Harmon, IL; Garnet Leedy, Bolckow, MO; and club president Eleanor Holland, Freeport, IL.

By Harrell Kerkhoff - Staff Writer

The popularity of Raggedy Ann and Andy is felt by all generations. The two American treasures have the ability to bring people together for fellowship and fun.

One group that is particularly fond of Raggedy Ann & Andy is an international club made up of people who were born in 1917.

The Jolly Seventeeners Club is a friendship group with over 300 members, many of whom get together at various places throughout the United States to visit and learn about new sites.

Last October members of the club visited central Illinois, including Arcola, the birthplace of Raggedy Ann & Andy creator Johnny Gruelle. This is important to group members because Raggedy Ann serves as the mascot for the Jolly Seventeeners.

While in Arcola, many of the club members toured The Johnny Gruelle Raggedy Ann & Andy Museum, as well as several local shops.

The club was founded in 1968 by the late Doris Morrison. Current club president Eleanor Holland, of Freeport, IL, puts together and mails a monthly newsletter to each member. Members also stay in touch through a round-robin letter writing system.

"You get to know a lot of people through this club," Beulah Higgins, of Alamogordo, NM, said. She added club founder Doris Morrison knew all of the members by name and was its driving force before her death a few years ago.

Another Jolly Seventeeners, Garnet Leedy, of Bolckow, MO, first learned about the club through a newspaper article not long after the group's formation.

Leedy wrote to Morrison stating she also was born in 1917 and was interested in joining. Morrison soon contacted Leedy back and said, "Hurry — get your membership in. We need more people or we may close down."

Leedy said she has seen the club grow from just a few people to over 300 members.

"I traveled all over with Doris," Leedy added.

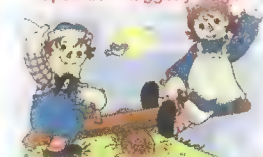
When asked why Raggedy Ann serves as the group's mascot, the members who visited Arcola all came to the general conclusion: "We just enjoy the Raggedy Ann doll."

For more information, contact Eleanor Holland, 1408 West Stover, Freeport, IL 61032-4768



Proverbs courtesy of Raggedy Ann & Andy Museum

Operation Raggedy Hugs



PLACE A RAGGEDY IN THE ARMS OF CHILDREN WHO HAVE LOST LOVED ONES In The Tragedies On 9/11/2001

Operation Raggedy Hugs Update

The submissions for Operation Raggedy Hugs have been coming in steadily. As of today's date, we have approximately 200 dolls for the Washington/Pennsylvania victims and approximately 500 dolls for the New York victims. We will turn the dolls over to Catholic Charities on March 1, 2002, so there is only a short time remaining for anyone who wishes to make contributions. All dolls must arrive on or before February 28, 2002 to be included.

We have been receiving new dolls, homemade dolls, and even some cleaned-up used dolls, and have a wide variety to give to the children. Contributions have arrived from nearly every state and even from other countries. Holly & MeChelle wish to take this opportunity to again thank all who have contributed, as well as the entire Gruelle family for their contributions and moral support.

— Holly Nolan

Anyone who is interested in joining Operation Raggedy Hugs still can send a doll or dolls (please, take boxed dolls out of boxes to save on shipping).

Note: MeChelle has been having significant computer problems, so for the time being send all inquiries to Holly Nolan at the Washington Headquarters.

Washington Headquarters

Operation Raggedy Hugs
c/o Holly Nolan
611 Glenview Avenue S.W.
Glen Burnie, MD 21061-3311
melvincat@yahoo.com

New York Headquarters

Operation Raggedy Hugs
c/o Mechelle Nash
392 Seventh Avenue
Troy, NY 12182



Operation Raggedy Hugs photos
at right courtesy of "Hugs"
Co-Chair MeChelle Nash



RAMBLIN' WITH RAINCOAT ANNIE IN 2001

What a travlin' time I've had this year. Of course, most family visits occur in Arcola in May, but we Raggedies have lots more relatives than real, for sure people do, so it was special fun for my Muggle folks (Bill and Alison Miller) and I to roam the world finding even more relatives.

First off, my friend, Pierre, the "older man" in my life (a Georgene dressed as a French sailor) drove with our Muggle folks down to the mountain home of cousins Raggedy Ann & Andy in the deep deep woods of North Carolina (see RAGS, V.14,#2) where we helped open the Last Great Museum of Memories with our Raggedy Muggle friends. Best magical fun was releasing butterflies up to the heavens. Coming home through Ohio, we stopped at the Raggedy Muggle Nest (a.k.a. Tony & Phyllis Nestor) in Vermilion to chat with relatives camped out in their very own special Raggedy room, dominated by one small dog named Arthur. At pizza picnic on the bright shores of Lake Erie we had to don our heart shaped sunglasses.

Hardly back home in Chicago with time to turn around, when we found ourselves at Midway airport on September 11th, waiting to fly to Montana. 'Course, we didn't take off that day, had to wait until the next week, not even any kite or owl flights available (see news media for details). But the next week we did take off. In Montana I met a fierce looking Indian, and a very sweet ranger type person in Yellowstone National Park. Had to be careful not to get splashed by Old Faithful. In Bozeman, we met ancestors who had trekked out West years ago, and who begged to come home with us. Nice pair, gently aged. Next, at Halloween, the folks and I flew out to San Diego, where we paid a visit to the Raggedy Patty Hall of Fame. An awesome group for me to nestle into, but most were very shy. I couldn't persuade any of them to join me down at the wharf to visit the haunted sailing ship. Maybe next time.

Then, in November, came the real, for certain, BIG trip: we flew to our family reunion in Tokyo, Japan. Guess who was at the airport to greet us? Our great Raggedy Muggle friend, Andrew T. from San Francisco (see his column for more details). He had arrived just before us, and had a bus waiting to drive us to our hotel. Such a special welcome! And, the next day, we just HAD to go see Disney Sea before the family reunion started. Boy, did we have a grand time, riding the monorail and sailing through the Little Mermaid's lagoon, as well as the make-believe Venice. Muggle people make such a fuss about the Disney adventures, but our Raggedy adventures are so much more fun, don't you think? Specially the made-up imagined ones.

My gosh, you should have seen the crowd at the reunion! Wow! Where did all those new cousins come from? Sure enjoyed meeting them all, along with the Raggedy Muggle Japanese folks. We just couldn't take enough pictures, seems like everyone wanted to welcome my folks to the festival and to grab ahold of me. Everyone posed in their beautiful decorated little stores, just chock full of things Raggedy. Made us all feel so very important. And the friendship gifts! Clever little pins of us all, and beautiful scarves, hankies, and other souvenirs. Great times! Please enjoy my picture album. I know almost everyone's name; hope I don't mix them up.

I peeked over Alison's shoulder while she was reading about Harry Potter, and learned that wizards refer to regular folks as "Muggles." It seems to me that this is a good way to describe "real, for sure people." Hope it's ok with you.

Cheers to you all.

Raincoat Annie (with help from Alison Hubbard-Miller)

Photo Collages by Alison & Bill Miller

Page 18



From top to bottom, left to right: My travels in the good old U.S. of A. San Diego: At Raggedy Patty Hall of Fame: in garden, on her chair, nestled with her dolls. With my Muggle folks, Bill and Alison 'down on the wharf'. In Midwest: With Pierre, by the shores of Lake Erie. Out West: With Yellowstone Park Ranger; an Indian, and those kids from Bozeman. In deep, deep woods: Raggedy Lane sign, and Kim Gruelle.



From top to bottom, left to right: My travels abroad. At Tokyo DisneySea with Andrew Tabbat, Columbus, Goofy and Japanese friend. Welcome to the Raggedy Ann Festival. Barbara Lauver, with Kimono Raggedy Anns. Cheyenne Nelson Kimono Raggedies in home made display. Heart Market: Yukari & Hirofumi Yamashita.

RAGS February 2002



From top to bottom, left to right: More Festival. Cheyenne Nelson, with friend Maya Watanabe and her grandmother at craft table. Four girls at craft table. Back of Haruka Kumagaya, displaying kimono Raggedy Ann and United Nations USA doll. Alison Hubbard and Jeanne Sims, with Ann, Andy, and Hiroyasu Idei of Heart Warming & Co. Four more girls with their craft work. Bill Miller with Hiromi Nishizawa and friend. Ruth Gruelle and Akio Matsunaga. Me on the Sunshine City Christmas display with penguin.



From top to bottom, left to right: More Festival. Cherry Bear girls, Yusuiko & Tsuyako Watanabe; Toshihiro Mazda and small son; Chiyo Kezuka and her dolls. British Market: Raggedy Cowboy & Cowgirl: Ian Platford & Rie Kikuchi; Harumi Soejima. Brick: Nobue & Kozo Fujimota. Bill Miller with Atsuko Uehara & family. John Otsuki, with daughter (Camel) and her friend (Arthur).

Raggedy Ann & The Candy Heart Memories

My husband and I met Amy Lannon at her bed and breakfast in Hilo. The evening we stayed at Amy's B&B I was traveling with a small Knickerbocker Raggedy Ann. I made a joke to Amy by saying we were actually three in the room and what would the price be; and, with that comment I showed Amy my Raggedy Ann that I was hiding behind my back.

Amy's 85 year old beautiful blue eyes sparkled and asked, "Where did you get Raggedy Ann?" Amy began her memories of owning a Raggedy Ann and Andy when she was VERY young, living in Pennsylvania.

"My oldest friend of 83 years (she and I are both 85) is coming to visit next week—we've known each other since the age of two and shared a love for Raggedy Ann and Andy. In fact, I read the first book in her family's library. So it was at least 80 years ago that love affair began. When I received my first set of Raggedy Ann and Andy, I carried them everywhere, but having such a sweet tooth (my excuse), I cut Raggedy Ann open to get to her candy heart. No candy—just tears and a scolding. Baba's mother mended her for me," said Amy.



Shirlee Freitas of Kailua-Kona, Hawaii sent this photo with her letter about a special encounter with a lovely lady, Amy Lannon, and Amy's 80 year plus love affair with Raggedy Ann. Pictured are left, Amy Lannon, age 85 and her friend of 83 years, Baba. They are holding Shirlee's treasured pair of dolls.

A few months later my husband and I were traveling the two hour drive over to Hilo from Kona and once again I was traveling with Raggedy Tears and Raggedy Hugs Andy (these dolls have been made with love by Linda Lockwood and Phyllis Nestor); love gifts to me to help in the healing process from the passing of our son. Sean passed away suddenly on August 15, 2001 from a heart attack, he was only 34 years old.

We stopped to see Amy while her friend of 83 years was also visiting. I had the opportunity to take pictures of these two beautiful ladies with my very precious pair of Raggedy Ann and Andy. I had given refrigerator Raggedy Ann and Andy magnets to Amy and she writes me saying, "Raggedy Ann and Andy smile at me early every morning when I open the refrigerator door. To think that 80 years ago, when Baba and I were five, we posed with our Raggedy Ann and Andy. This is especially precious since I doubt if I'll ever see Baba again. Her health is critical and Pennsylvania is so far away."

Thank you and aloha!

Shirlee Anne Freitas—Hilo, Hawaii

Raggedy Ann Popular At Birthday Express

Each year millions of families across the globe plan celebrations for their cherished children. In 1992, Mike and Jan Jewell nearly lost such an opportunity. Their son Sebastian came into the world three months earlier than expected and weighed only one pound and 10 ounces.

Twelve months later, when Sebastian reached his first birthday, the Jewell family realized the importance of the occasion and provided a grand celebration to honor their children.

Since then, Sebastian has become a healthy 9-year-old boy, and the Jewell family's concern for children has become something much greater and truly unique.

Through their experiences, the Jewells realized that all birthdays are, in fact, celebrations of life. With that in mind, their mission became clear — to help other busy parents celebrate the lives of their children.

In 1992, the Jewells discussed creating an Internet-based resource that would allow parents to browse products, receive party-planning advice and purchase themed packages with a quick visit to a virtual party store. Market research at that time, however, showed that the e-commerce community lacked the activity necessary to meet the company's aggressive online sales goals.

After investigating some direct marketing opportunities, the Jewells launched Birthday Express in Kirkland, WA, in 1994 with a full-color catalog that showcases party themes, products, planning services and ordering procedures.

As a one-stop shopping solution, Birthday Express, which has been featured on *Oprah Winfrey Show* and in *People Magazine*, reduces the amount of stress, time and effort involved in coordinating an event or celebration. Those looking to plan a party can shop from the company's quarterly catalog or visit the Birthday Express Web site at www.BirthdayExpress.com.

The first step in planning such a birthday event, however, is to choose a theme. The company's staff members design unique themes for customers struggling with the difficult job of planning a party.

For collectors of Raggedy Ann and Andy memorabilia, the decision requires little consultation. They know which theme they prefer. That's because Birthday Express, in January of 2000, added Raggedy Ann and Andy items to its catalog.

Since then, the company's expansion, along with strong interest in its Raggedy Ann and Andy line, has brought the company much success while also bringing collectors much happiness.

"The Raggedy Ann and Andy collectors just love the items we offer," said Rebecca Burgess, who works in the company's public relations department.

Once someone chooses a party theme, Birthday Express offers a carefree ordering process. Along with online orders, customers can order supplies from the Birthday Express customer service department by phone, mail or fax.

For customers' convenience, Birthday Express takes orders seven days per week. In addition, the company is capable of shipping to any location in the world.

The many people who have planned perfect parties with assistance from Birthday Express have Mike and Jan Jewell to thank. Mike, a successful entrepreneur in the high-tech industry, and Jan, an accomplished jewelry designer, goldsmith and entrepreneur, have worked to expand the company with upgrades in operations and marketing.

"We're always looking for unique ways to help consumers create memories and individualize the party-planning process," said Jan Jewell, the company's co-chief executive officer.

Today, Raggedy collectors are benefiting from the company's moves.

In 1996, the company added its Web site. A year later, Birthday Express added to its charm with the purchase of a company that allows customers to order detailed records of unique and interesting events that occurred on the same day as a person's birthday.

Birthday Express now presents this information to customers through 23 attractive, themed Great Days scroll designs. Each scroll commemorates the life of a child or adult with personalization including the recipient's name, birth day, birth weight and height, as well as the name of the city and name of the hospital in which the individual was born. For online access to Great Days' products, customers can visit www.GreatDays.com.

Although the company continues to focus on providing products and services needed for children's birthdays, the Jewells began to extend their business to meet the needs of others by offering special resources for planning and celebrating birthdays, holidays and other special occasions. Raggedy collectors came into the mix shortly after this expansion.

Along with party supplies such as plates, cups and napkins, the expansion allowed for meeting the demands of collectors looking for such items as stickers, balloons and dolls.

In the future, the company plans to add Raggedy Ann and Andy cake toppers and additional items to its line. Already, the company provides Raggedy collectors with some useful services that make cake-baking a bit easier and tastier. Raggedy enthusiasts can visit the company's Web site for those recipe ideas.

Along with that service, the company offers party tips in a online scrapbook that combines the ideas of people from across the United States. In addition, the company provides such online services as a directory of party games, a printable coloring book section, a detailed party planning checklist and a resource listing the birthdays of famous people.

In addition to supplies and other products and services, the company offers a variety of toys that help to fulfill a child's birthday wishes. The company may expand its Raggedy Ann and Andy-themed toy line in the future. To shop for toys, customers can head to www.ToylandExpress.com.

While Birthday Express realized the need for themed items relating to Raggedy Ann and Andy, the company underestimated the demand for such products.

"It was a nice surprise to see our wholesale sales do so well with Raggedy Ann and Andy items," said Heather Wiles, the wholesale program manager for Birthday Express.

The cause for the surprise came when various businesses that cater to the needs of Raggedy Ann and Andy collectors began purchasing large amounts of supplies from the company.

These popular "Raggedy stores" then shelve the items and sell them to individual collectors. It provides a convenient way for the company to reach Raggedy collectors who have yet to learn of the company. In the future, the company's product line might be available through general retail establishments. Birthday Express is working to develop such accounts at the moment.

PRESSMAN INVITES CHILDREN TO PLAY THE DAY AWAY WITH RAGGEDY ANN AND ANDY!

NEW GAME AND PUZZLES INTRODUCE TIME-HONORED CLASSICS TO A NEW GENERATION OF CHILDREN

Beloved American children's classics, Raggedy Ann and Andy, have made their long-awaited return to the game world in 2001 with Pressman Toy Corporation's charming new ***A Great Day in the Park Game*** and new line of jigsaw puzzles featuring ***"Friendship"*** and ***"Play Time"*** Puzzles. Starring America's favorite red-haired rag dolls, this new game and puzzle line is sure to keep preschoolers learning while having fun!

Raggedy Ann was first created in 1915 by cartoonist, author, illustrator and toy designer John Gruelle, and was quickly joined by her brother Andy soon after. Raggedy Ann and Andy's popularity has spanned the globe for generations, representing universal friendship, kindness, playfulness and a certain innocence that true American classics maintain.

A Great Day In The Park Game

Packaged in a beautiful embossed collector's tin, the colorful, oversized game board is decorated with different-sized and multi-colored game spaces that correspond with the playing cards—all relating to Raggedy Ann and Andy. There are the Red Triangle spaces that looks like Raggedy Ann and Andy's noses, the circle spaces with red and white stripes like Raggedy Ann's stockings, a square with Andy's red, blue and white plaid, and many other fun patterns! Players choose a card and advance their Raggedy Ann and Andy game pieces to the closest

corresponding board space. Watch carefully, though—certain cards call for players to move back or ahead to special areas on the board: the Balloon area, the Watering Can area, and the Flower Bed. The first player to reach the end wins the game!

The ***A Great Day in the Park Game*** comes with one oversized game board, an illustrated deck of cards, Raggedy Ann and Andy playing pieces, and a commemorative full-color embossed tin. Recommended for 2-4 players, ages 4 and up, the ***A Great Day in the Park Game*** is available for a recommended retail price of \$19.99.

Raggedy Ann and Andy "Friendship" Puzzle

Raggedy Ann and Andy are brother and sister, *and* best of friends! This pair does everything that best friends do: play, laugh and share their favorite toys with one another! The "Friendship" puzzle is a great project for preschoolers who are learning to share!

Raggedy Ann and Andy "Play Time" Puzzle

Come out and play with the gang! It's a beautiful outside—and a perfect day to hang out in the sunshine. Raggedy and Andy are waiting for their friends—old and new—to join in the fun!

Recommended for ages 4 and up, the 24-piece ***Raggedy Ann and Andy "Friendship"*** and ***"Play Time"*** Puzzles is available for a suggested retail price of \$3.00 each.

**Go from Rags to Riches by adding
Raggedy Ann & Andy Party Supplies
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"Rags" Notes

Dear Rags Readers,

I love this magazine! I also love the Raggedy's. So my daughter gave me an August birthday party all in Raggedy theme. We had balloons, tablecloth, plates, etc. and my very own Raggedy Ann cake! I was so surprised (as you can see)! I had been out that day and come home to find it all done for my 45th birthday. And yes, my daughter made and decorated the cake!

Love,
"Raggedy" Anita Watkins—Boynton Beach, FL



Anita Watkins of Boynton Beach, FL received a special surprise on her 45th birthday recently when she returned home to find a Raggedy themed party in her honor. Her daughter made the cake pictured above.

Dear Rags,

My daughter, Colleen Skiles, has been a Raggedy collector for many years. She has just renewed for her third year of RAGS magazine. We were both touched by the "Operation Raggedy Hugs" article and were delighted that a drop off point, Holly Nolan, was just around the corner from us. Without calling, my daughter, Colleen, and my grandchildren and I, (Megan Skiles, age five and twins, Justin and Sara McIntyre, age 8) knocked on Mrs. Nolan's door. She was not home but her son, Tim Nolan, was so very nice to us. He accepted the Raggedy's on behalf of his mom and happily posed for the enclosed picture (see lower left photo, page 23). We all hope "Operation" is a huge success and commend you for a beautiful way to help children. Ann and Andy always bring a smile!

Thank you. Megan is also a collector!

Donna Riley—Ferndale, MD

Dear "Rags"

As a long time subscriber to "Rags" when Barb was editor and publisher, I have loved reading about people from all over the world who love Raggedy Ann and Andy.

I have since interested my granddaughter in my favorite family of dolls and would like to send her a subscription to "Rags." I have kept every issue since I subscribed and still read them all over again and again.

I regret that at age 81, I cannot attend the Arcola Festival, but perhaps I can go to the Orlando one.

I recently told a friend about Arcola and she and her husband drove 150 miles to see it and spent a delightful afternoon with Joni Wannamaker and her husband. Evan even had his picture taken in the Raggedy Ann wig with Raggedy Ann.

Thanks for the many hours of enjoyment I receive reading your "Mag Rags."

Sincerely,
Dotte Schwensen—Holiday, Florida

Dear Linda and Don,

I, like many, look forward to Rags—and each time, such a treat! You are all to be complimented on the extraordinary response to our nation's crisis. It was so very appropriate and comforting . . . meeting the true needs of our country's raggedy folks and beyond.

While Barbara gave birth to the newsletter, you are giving growth and professionalism that will keep it going. Raggedy Ann and Andy licensees are growing and your contribution of offering the written communication to further the Raggedy base is so needed. Thanks for all your efforts.

Looking forward to seeing you in May.

Sincerely,
Bucky Poppleton—Carmel, IN

Rags:

I look forward to each issue of Rags! Andrew Tabbat always keeps us informed on the latest Raggedy items, and where we might find them. Kim Gruelle keeps us connected to the originator of our dear Raggedies and I enjoy the articles sent in by "Rags" subscribers. "Rags" is a super publication! Keep up the good work!

Happy holidays!
Judy Johnson—Northridge, CA



Megan Skiles of Ferndale, MD is pictured with two of her best friends.



Pictured is Raggedy Timothy Hawn, age 2.

Raggedy Andy: The Cloth Action Figure

As a child, surrounded by Strawberry Shortcake and Barbies I often heard, "You collect Raggedy Ann and Andy, I did not know they still made those." Still my birthday parties, Halloween costumes, and room was (not Barbie) Raggedy Ann and Andy. I had nothing against Barbie and the others, I had all types of dolls, but there was something about Raggedy Ann and Andy that was different.

As a little girl I still remember quietly crawling on my hands and knees to my room, quickly opening the door, and being disappointed that I had not caught Raggedy Ann and Andy playing like they did in Marcella's room.

When I got married Raggedy Ann and Andy were throughout our house, and when I got pregnant only one room theme was ever considered, Raggedy Ann and Andy. After I found out I was having a baby boy I often heard, "You mean you're still going to have a Raggedy Ann and Andy nursery?" I would think to myself, no one ever questions the parent who chooses Winnie the Pooh or Mickey Mouse for a girl's nursery, and after all, the whole idea of Raggedy Ann and Andy was started because of a parents' love for their child. Baby Boy, meet Raggedy Ann and Andy. His room was decorated with mostly Raggedy Ann and Andy and, in my opinion and every Raggedy Lover out there, was simply perfect.

After our son, Timothy, was born I never forced Raggedy Ann and Andy on him, of course he could hardly avoid recognizing them since they were everywhere. He would look at them and smile; he really loves "Ah"ndy as he says it. I have a large Raggedy Ann in a Raggedy chair and he will crawl up in her lap, wrap both her arms around him, kiss her, and say, "AAHHH."

His Halloween costume was Raggedy Andy, and again I heard, "You mean you're dressing him up as Raggedy Andy?" My reply, "Yes, and he cries when you take the costume off." You know when you think about it parents try to teach their children good morals, love of God, Country, and to be kind to everyone. What better choice for a toy can you choose than the good old Raggedies. So tonight at bedtime I will read Timothy the Bible, say our prayers, and read another Raggedy Ann and Andy Adventure. As he sleeps in his room full of cars, trucks and Elmo, his Raggedy Andy action figures are still in his room, too, watching over my Raggedy Timothy.

Jill Mills Hawn—Pikeville, TN



Pictured are Tim Nolan (son of Operation Raggedy Hugs co-chair Holly Nolan), Megan Skiles age 5 and Justin and Sara McIntyre, age 8. Megan, Justin and Sara are the grandchildren of Donna Riley, Ferndale, MD. They, along with Donna's daughter, Colleen Skiles dropped off Raggedy donations at the home of Holly Nolan for Operation Raggedy Hugs. Holly's son, Tim accepted the donation.

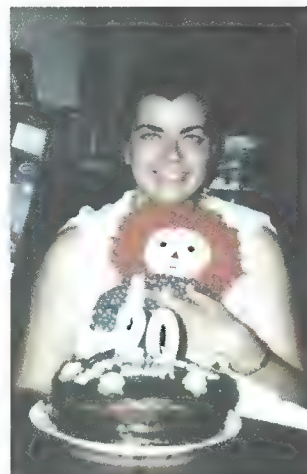
Rags:

Enclosed is a picture of our granddaughter, Emily Taylor, on her 20th birthday, holding her equally 20 year old Raggedy Ann that I made for her when she was born.

Emily is a student at Longwood College in Farmville, VA and plans to graduate in May.

We hope you have room for her picture in "Rags." We love the Rags magazine.

*Sincerely,
Paul & Gerty Poling*



Emily Taylor, granddaughter of Paul and Gerty Poling of Amissville, Virginia is pictured on her 20th birthday (Aug '01) holding the Raggedy doll that Gerty had made for her when she was born.



Pictured in their 2001 Halloween costumes are Grace Ford, age 2 and her sister, Joy Ford, age 6, daughters of Becky Ford of Wells Tannery, PA.

Hello Rags,

Here are two of my daughters dressed as Raggedy Ann and Andy. Grace is 2 years old and Joy was 6 years old when the photo was taken.

These were the girls' Halloween costumes. Each of them carried a Raggedy Ann or Andy. Everyone loved them! I took them to a restaurant plaza on the Pennsylvania turnpike to visit their older sister, Elise, while she was working. Customers and employees' eyes lit up when seeing the two little "dolls."

Their ornery older brother, Dylan, age 13 insists he is in the photo too. He says he was dressed as the Invisible Man!

I thought you might enjoy this photo and share it with your readers if you had space. You may keep it.

Happy New Year!

*Becky Ford—Wells Tannery, Pennsylvania
dford@nb.net*

Hi! & Greetings from the Ozarks!

Was in Arcola for Festival 2001 with 10 members from our doll club. Was first time to attend for us. Three of us sported "R. Ann & Andy" attire. I was "Andy" 'cus he wears a hat (and I always wear hats). Have been collecting hats before dolls. Now have a "Red Head" doll collection starting with "R. Ann" which I won with the wonderful book—"Real, For Sure Story of Raggedy Ann" by Patricia Hall and illustrated by our beloved Joni Gruelle

Wannamaker! Thank you for my darling book that was donated by your awesome museum!

I am so grateful for my book, it was a gracious gesture, indeed! Was so great to have the opportunity to meet the friendly and accommodating Gruelle family! These will remain among my fondest memories! Being 65 years young, my book will go to my lovely daughter, Paula, who grew up with "R. Ann and Andy!"

Since I am a chapter leader of "Red Hat Society," am making a red hat for "R. Ann," so

she can join us in celebrating, "Life—Chapter Two," for "Vintage 50" ladies. I think "R. Ann" will make a loving addition to our chapter! So, now my "R. Ann" is a "Vaguely Vogue Vamp" and will attend our next gathering in her new red hat! The "girls" will love it!

Raggedy friends are best! God Bless America!

Thank you!

Jan Lumley—Holiday Island, Arkansas

October 6, 2001

I would like to submit a poem titled, "Finding Raggedy Ann At The Market" for your consideration. The poem celebrates the smiling fortitude of Raggedy Ann who keeps on smiling through all of life's vicissitudes though she has nothing to wear but rags.

The poem is also an acrostic in tribute to Vivian London who has been making and selling her Raggedy Anns for more than 25 years at the Farmer's Market in Fayetteville, Arkansas.

My poetry has appeared in many publications including *Art Times*, *The Lyric*, *Troubadour*, *The Mid-America Poetry Review* and others.

I am now retired from a life of government employment and private practice as a real estate appraiser.

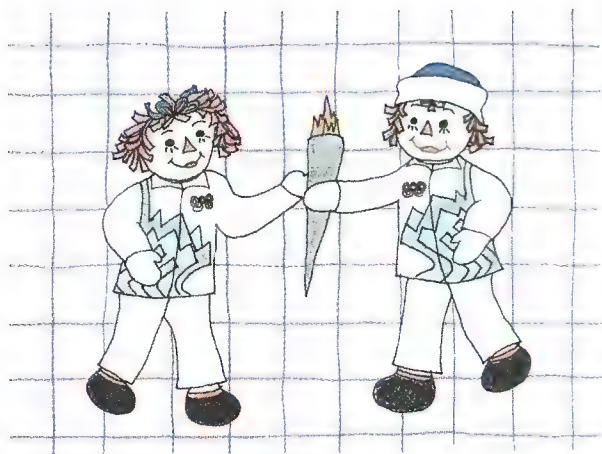
SASE is enclosed. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Newton Miner—Lincoln, Arkansas

FINDING RAGGEDY ANN AT THE MARKET

Visitors to the market sometimes come
In search of something other than the day's
Vegetables which the farmers bring from home.
It is a wise old axiom that says
A person does not live by bread alone.
Nor can the fragrant flowers which we see
Soothe the nameless anguish sometimes known
Deep within the soul's anxiety.
Only a smile succeeds as wisdom's nurse,
Lending us the fortitude we view.
Let wind and rain and babblers do their worst:
Smiling Raggedy Ann will see us through.



Brenda Freiger of Port Huron, Michigan sent in this original in honor of the 2002 Olympics. She titled her drawing. "Our Olympians."

Dear Linda & Don Rankin:

Hope this finds you doing well. I want to wish you a very Happy New Year!

My precious grandson, Justin Andrew, drew me this picture of Raggedy Andy! He is in Kindergarten this year at age five. My daughter chose his middle name to be Andrew (for Andy as in Raggedy Andy . . .). My grandson enjoys drawing me Raggedy Ann and Andy pictures and I enjoy saving each and every drawing! From a very proud Gran'ma!



Belinda Lockwood—Clifton, CO

Belinda Lockwood's grandson, Justin Andrew, age 5 drew this Raggedy Andy for his grandmother. This proud Raggedy gran resides in Clifton, CO.

Greetings!

Please find enclosed a puzzle which I have had made for my daughter, Angela Sue Hillier, an avid Raggedy Ann and Andy fan and collector from birth on April 8, 1971 at 4:26 a.m., 7 lbs.-7 oz., 20 inches.

On her 30th birthday (April 8, 2001) her husband, her mother and I flew from Peoria, Illinois to Las Vegas, Nevada. Everyone aboard the aircraft received a copy of the puzzle to do in flight.

Our beloved Ann and Andy are just everywhere, you just can't get away from them. Even in the Heavens, thou art there! God Bless us all!

Ann and Andy and Angela, we love you so!

Kindest Regards,
Bill Munson, Father—Knoxville, IL

See Puzzle on Page 3



Rags received this holiday greeting from Renee and Brian Frantzen of Massapequa, NY.

These are some of Renee Frantzen's (Massapequa, NY) "Fall Raggedy Finds"



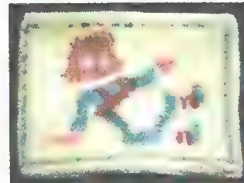
Puzzle



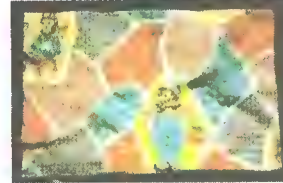
Winter Dolls



Foam Door Mat



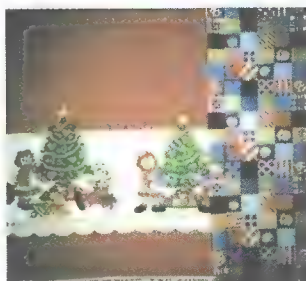
Hook Rug



Pillowcase



Fabric panel for a Girl's Jumper
RAGS February 2002



Cotton Fabric



Fabric to make a "soft book"



Towel



Apron



Greetings from "The Home of Raggedy Ann & Raggedy Andy" in the deep, deep woods of the Western North Carolina mountains.

This fall, we're offering the following for sale:

Giant Blue Camel w/Wrinkled Knees
from Japan\$100 + S&H
Holiday Limited Edition 2001
.....\$50 + S&H
Winter Ann & Andy.....\$26 (each) + S&H
Cowboy Andy.....\$25 + S&H
Cowgirl Ann\$25 + S&H
Georgine Limited Edition Set
.....\$85 + S&H
Snitznoodle (way cool!).....\$50 + S&H
Raggedy Ann
in Cookieland\$50 + S&H
The "Marcella" Book.....\$17 + S&H
As Time Goes By
(boxed set).....\$70 + S&H

Please call Miss Darlene and she'll wrestle me away from my favorite fishin' hole to autograph that special doll or book for you! Oops...gotta go...don't want that big'un to get away!

"THE LAST GREAT CO."

14 Raggedy Lane • Cashiers, NC 28717

Phone 828-743-9255

Fax 828-743-4353

deepdeepwoods@hotmail.com

Andrew: Continued from Page 7

cookie tins, photo albums, pins, and more. Next came a historical display of vintage dolls, books, and toys. Nearby was a TV monitor playing a taped greeting from Tom & Joni at the museum in Arcola (along with the scene-stealing Snitznoodle). Another display showcased new licensed products made for the Japanese market; bolts of cloth printed with a collage of Johnny Gruelle's artwork (even Belindy!), dishes of fine china, tin items, nostalgic enamelware... I was glad I'd brought an empty suitcase. This area flowed into a competitive exhibition of Raggedy crafts; lovable handmade dolls, fantastic quilts, and exquisite tole painting. Beyond the display was an area where one could complete any number of Raggedy craft projects on the spot. The busy crafts-making section of the festival was a wonderful way to involve people of all ages and levels of skill (little Cheyenne participated, crafting gifts for several of her new friends). Turning in the other direction, we came to the true heart of the matter... the sales booths! Rows and rows and rows of them! Old stuff! New stuff! American stuff! Japanese stuff! And all of it Raggedy stuff! The booths themselves were put together with flair and imagination, and the vendors were nearly all in costume... these hardworking folk are serious about selling, but they understand that FUN is what Raggedy Ann & Andy are all about.

Speaking of people who worked hard to drum up fun for so many (How many, you ask? 5,000 paid admissions, a figure which excludes the swarms of children under 12 who got in for free), yes, speaking of those who worked hard, I'd like to mention just a few... Mr. Iwabuchi Hidetoshi, Mr. Akio Matsunaga, and Ms. Masami Sakai (all with United Media K.K.), along with John Otsuki, labored to make this festival happen. Their sincere delight at the success of the event was a pleasure to witness. Ms. Chiyo Kezuka designed the various styles of Japanese dolls manufactured by Applause. I personally wouldn't have been able to do my small bit at the festival without the aid of Ms. Toshie Kanda and Ms. Nobuko Kondo-Calisher. They not only translated for me while fulfilling a dozen other responsibilities as well, but also discreetly let me know when I made social blunders (did you know that, in Japan, you should never write anyone's name in red ink? And me with my "Raggedy red" pen!). As I mentioned earlier, Nobuko was also part of the excellent team at Gakken Publishing who put together the festival's gorgeous Official Fan Book. If you can lay hands on a copy, you'll see photos of current Japanese goods, as well as sewing patterns, photographic visits to the homes of collectors, etc. Toshie was even kind enough to whisk me off to see some of Tokyo's famous sights between book-signings (what an exciting city it is, such a mix of modern and ancient, of tradition and fashion. If you go next time, there's so much more to see than "just" the festival).

As hard as everyone worked, it seems they played with equal determination. At the end of the festival's opening day, a buffet banquet was held. All of us Americans were welcomed with sincere gratitude that we had made the journey in the wake of September 11th. John Otsuki made a lively auctioneer as donated items were sold to raise funds for the Raggedy Museum in Arcola. When I crept off to my room exhausted, the party was still in full swing. Closing night saw another bash, more raucous than the first.

During the return bus ride to Tokyo's Narita airport, Ruth, Jeannie, and I discussed highlights of our adventure and agreed that we wouldn't have missed it for the world. You may be able to buy some of the terrific Japanese merchandise on eBay or at the festival in Arcola (and I think you should), but how much more it means when it's really a souvenir of your very own magical adventure!

In the "Something To Look Forward To" department, Hallmark has announced plans to include a pair of miniature Raggedy Ann & Andy ornaments in their assortment for Christmas 2002. These will be tiny, and will be boxed as a set.

Festival Corner: Continued from Page 4

edition Raggedy Andy badge will be awarded to those paid registrants who participate in any part of the 10K walk and the cost is \$7.00. This will be an event that you will not want to miss.

A Festival welcome and auction will be held at the Arcola 1st National Bank at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday May 18th. There are always wonderful Raggedy items on the auction block. All proceeds go to either the Johnny Gruelle Festival Fund or to the Johnny Gruelle Raggedy Ann & Andy Museum.

Saturday's Festival Parade will be held at 3:00 p.m. There will be floats, bands, Raggedy Ann & Andy look-a-likes and other Raggedy characters participating in this year's parade. A special event is planned for all who participate in the parade in a Raggedy costume. This is not for Raggedy Ann & Andy look alike only, other Raggedy characters are welcome. Each person in costume will be given an invitation to a special party held at the Raggedy Museum on Saturday evening. If you would like to take part in this year's Festival parade, please contact Mike Woolworth for an entry form at 409 E. Jefferson, Arcola, IL. 61910.

On Saturday May 18th, there will be a Raggedy Social held at 4:00 p.m. at the Arcola Christian Church located on Main Street one block east of downtown Arcola. This year's host & hostess of the Raggedy Social will be Ron & Sherry Rasmussen. Sherry is the author of "My Own Raggedy Ann True Stories". During the social, we would like for you to bring an unusual Raggedy item other than a doll, write up your own Raggedy stories and bring copies to share with others. A door prize will be given away.

Saturday & Sunday, Raggedy Ann & Andy collectibles will be for sale in the new Arcola Center located on West Main Street, across from Casey's. Combining the vendors on the street with the collectibles in the Community Center, the world's largest selection of Raggedy Ann & Andy merchandise will be available in Arcola this weekend.

The Arcola Chamber of Commerce commemorative items will be located on Main Street in the little red raggedy building. There will be t-shirts, sweatshirts, mugs, pens, and note cards. Next to the little red building is where the Gruelle family will be autographing your special Raggedy item. Kim Gruelle's "The Last Great Company" booth will have autographed Raggedy items available for purchase. Megan Keating, the daughter of Joni Gruelle Wannamaker, will have Raggedy items she has created for sale in her booth. These gifted artists will be located in the Community Center. Be sure to stop by their booths.

North Locust will house a wonderful new Raggedy Adventure Land. This area was created for our younger Raggedy fans. There will be booths, games, rides, and loads of fun for children.

Live free entertainment will fill the streets of Arcola both days of this year's Festival. There is always something for everyone in the street entertainment including clowns, puppets, Mr. Steve, The Storyteller, the street dance, and much more. Come bring the entire family to enjoy this year's 13th, "Original Raggedy Ann & Andy Festival" being held on May 18th & 19th. Hope to see you there!



BRAND NEW! JUST PUBLISHED!



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By **PATRICIA HALL**

Illustrated by **KATHRYN MITTER**

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Books, 13089 Candela Place, San Diego, CA 92130

Rags Readers In Focus



Tony and Phyllis Nestor of Vermilion, Ohio took their Traveling Andy to visit Santa and had this picture taken.



A special Raggedy Ann was spotted in San Antonio, TX on October 24, '01. Riannon Guerrero celebrated her first birthday in grand Raggedy style. Riannon is the granddaughter of Cindy Hermanson, an employee of the Raggedy Ann and Andy Museum in Arcola, IL. Riannon has been collecting Raggedy Ann dolls since her birth.



The above photo was taken by Bucky Poppleton at a Junior League Christmas Fair in Irving, CA where Patty Hall was signing books she has authored. Left to right are Bucky Poppleton, Alex Uhl, owner of the Whale of a Tale bookstore in Irving, Patty Hall, and Laura Witt, cousin of Patty Hall.

Snitznoodle enjoys relaxing in a tree as he watches the traffic on the Ohio River near Leavenworth, IN. Larry Beachy and Myra Williams of Arcola, IL took Snitznoodle with them on a fall vacation. They enjoyed boating, antiquing and a visit to a state park near Santa Claus, IN. On the return trip to Arcola, they visited a beautiful chapel nestled in the hills of southern Indiana near Morgantown, the Cottonwood Christian Church whose pastor is Darrell Miller.



Jackie and Danny Daffron of Monticello, Kentucky sent this Raggedy holiday greeting which was captioned, "Oh Beautiful Star of Bethlehem, Shine On."

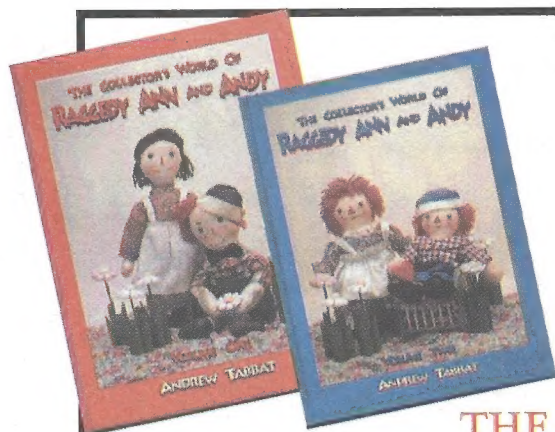


Bucky Poppleton took this shot of Joni Gruelle Wannamaker at the Cicero Indiana Hamilton North Public Library.

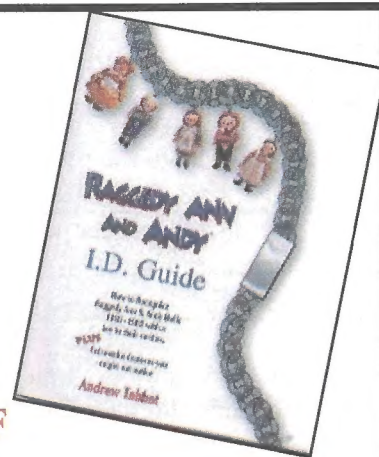


Bucky Poppleton sent this photo of Patty Hall, and Joni Gruelle Wannamaker taken during a Raggedy presentation at the Tipton, Indiana Public Library.

The deadline for the May issue of Rags will be April 5. We look forward to, and welcome your photos, drawings, letters and other art. Please send to:
204 East Main, P.O. Box 130, Arcola, IL 61910
drankin125@aol.com



Books By Andrew Tabbat



THE COLLECTOR'S WORLD OF RAGGEDY ANN AND ANDY

VOLUME ONE covers Johnny Gruelle's lifetime (1880-1938), including dolls, books, etc., by Volland, Molly-'Es, Exposition, M.A. Donahue, and Whitman, homemade dolls, look-alikes, and more!

VOLUME TWO is about the Raggedys from 1938-1997: Georgene Novelties, Johnny Gruelle Co., Bobbs-Merrill, Knickerbocker, McCall's, Hallmark, Macmillan, Hasbro, Applause and more!

Hard cover. Each volume \$39 plus shipping (Total - \$45 each or \$86 per set)

RAGGEDY ANN AND ANDY I.D. GUIDE

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CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE: 14 yards of old cotton Rag Muffin blue material on original bolt; tag with instructions for care; good condition with original tag from Killians Department Store. Phone 319-396-9772.

FOR SALE: Petite Princess rare kitchen and bathroom pieces (e-mail me!); Petite Princess TV set; pair plaster RAA head plaques, \$25; Sticker Game, dated 1946, great art work on not mint box, very cute, \$25; RAnn commercially made awhile back, pillow back covering very patriotic, red/white/blue and stars; Raggedy's head only and 3 dimensional, near mint, \$25; Hasbro Christmas Ann, no box, excellent, \$45. Dee Domroe, 860-354-8442, Dollrm@aol.com.

FOR SALE: Sarka Sales bulletin board, \$5; Wilton cake decorating kit, \$5; Syrocco plaques—Ann, Andy, Ann and Andy with mirror (mirror gone), \$15; Schmid bookends, \$5; Gallery Graphics flue cover, \$3. Shirley Quick, 609 NE 6 Avenue, Mandan, ND 58554.

FOR SALE: WE'RE STILL HERE with lots of Raggedy stuff. So let us know what you're interested in. Call, write, or send e-mail to: Hubbard-Miller, 1617 E. 50th PL, 8E, Chicago, IL 60615-3115, 773-288-2749, hubmil@msn.com.

WANTED: Raggedy clothes. I have a big "naked" Raggedy and I would like to buy clothes to dress her. SLHEBERT@ATT.NET.

WANTED: 1999 First Christmas Ann by Applause. Adams, 1322 Fountain St., Albert Lea, MN 56007. Phone 507-373-4153.

RESTORATIONS: Raggedy Anns, teddy bears and other cloth dolls and animals. Antique to modern. Quality work done with tender loving care. No challenge too great. Anita B. Waters, 24 College St., Unit 1, Clinton, CT 06413, 860-664-9847.

HELP: There's no place to walk in my Raggedy room! Must sell dolls, curtains, bedding, wall decor, books and lots of miscellaneous items. Send SASE for list to: Lynn Dowdy, 4906 Dowdy Drive, Jonesboro, Arkansas 72401.

Send me your SASE for my list of older Raggedy "things." Also have lots of dolls including homemades from 40's/50's and Knicks. Hasbro Christmas Ann, no box, excellent condition, \$45. Dee: dollrm@aol.com or 860-354-8442, 9 Stuart Rd., Bridgewater, CT 06752.

Send your classified advertising to: Rags, 204 East Main, P.O. Box 130, Arcola, IL 61910 or e-mail: drankin125@aol.com (Rags subscribers receive 1 free classified ad with each subscription.)

Ask Andrew: Continued from Page 9

strands sewn down at the nape of the neck. Their Anns always had topknots (Asleep/Awakes excepted), while the Andys didn't. This is true of most standard-style dolls by Knickerbocker, Hasbro, and Applause, also. Of course, there are cases of factory error; dolls were sometimes wigged, dressed, or tagged incorrectly. Some children may have clipped the topknot off. But often you can figure out from the wig whether a doll (by any company except Molly-'Es) was originally dressed as Ann or Andy.

I hope that if you use my ID Guide carefully, you'll be able to determine whether or not many dolls' clothes are correct. The outfits of most Raggedy dolls are described, in greater detail, in the longer texts of my "Collector's World" books. The more dolls (or photos) you look closely at, the better you'll become at recognizing prints, buttons, sewing methods, etc. However, I confess that sometimes it's really tricky to tell if the underwear or apron have been expertly replaced.

Regards, Andrew

Andrew Tabbat photos: Continued from Page 7



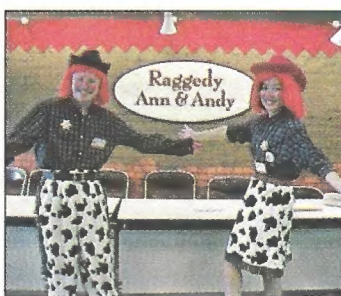
Festival poster



John Otsuki



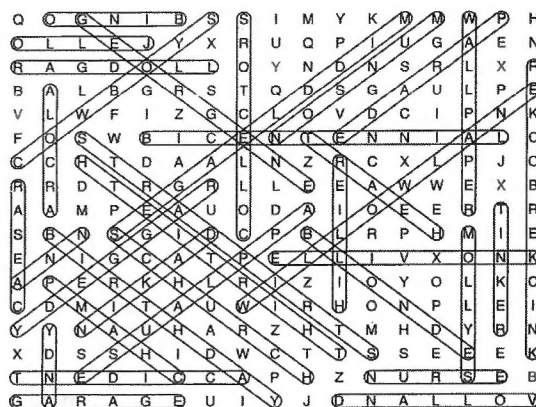
Andrew & Ann



Ian & Rie

Answers to Puzzle on Page 3

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